

Amendments to the Claims:

59. (Currently amended) A multimeric hybrid gene encoding a chimeric protein including a protein from parainfluenza virus (PIV) and a protein from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a PIV-3 HN protein or a fragment thereof having hemagglutinin-neuraminidase ~~neurominidase~~ activity linked to a nucleotide sequence coding for a RSV F protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity.

60. (Cancelled)

61. (Previously added) The hybrid gene of claim 59 contained in an expression vector.

62. (Previously amended) The hybrid gene of claim 61 in the form of a plasmid which is pD2 RF-HN (ATCC 75388).

63. (Previously added) Eukaryotic cells containing the multimeric hybrid gene of claim 59 for expression of the chimeric protein encoded by the hybrid gene.

64. (Previously added) The cells of claim 63 which are mammalian cells, insect cells, yeast cells or fungal cells.

65. (Previously added) A vector for antigen delivery containing the gene of claim 59.

66. (Previously added) The vector of claim 65 which is viral vector.

67. (Previously added) The vector of claim 66 wherein said viral vector is selected from the group consisting of poxviral, adenoviral and retroviral viral vectors.

68. (Previously added) The vector of claim 65 which is a bacterial vector.

69. (Previously added) The vector of claim 68 wherein said bacterial vector is selected from salmonella and mycobacteria.

70. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a chimeric protein including a protein from parainfluenza virus (PIV) and a protein from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), which comprises:

isolating a first nucleotide sequence encoding a PIV-3 HN protein or a fragment thereof having hemagglutinin-neuraminidase ~~neurominidase~~ activities,

isolating a second nucleotide sequence encoding a RSV F protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity,

linking said first and second nucleotide sequences to form a multimeric hybrid gene, and

expressing the multimeric hybrid gene in a cellular expression system.

72. (Currently amended) The process of claim 70 wherein said multimeric hybrid gene is contained in an expression vector which is pD2 RF-HN (ATCC 75388).

73. (Previously amended) The process of claim 70 wherein said cellular expression system is provided by mammalian cells, insect cells, yeast cells or fungal cells.

74. (Currently amended) The process of claim 70 including separating a chimeric protein from a culture of said eukaryotic cellular expression system and purifying the separated chimeric protein.

75. (Cancelled)

76. (Cancelled)
